

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PA-04 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2362

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

FAA BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: DIRECTOR GENERAL OF AIR FRANCE

REF: PARIS 20308

1. THERE HAS STILL BEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF WHO IS TO SUCCEED PIERRE COT AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF AIR FRANCE. WE ARE TOLD THAT MENTRE DE LOYE (REFTEL) IS NO LONGER A CANDIDATE AND QUESTION OF SUCCESSION IS STILL BEING DEBATED WITHIN GOF.

2. AMONG NAMES NOW BEING MENTIONED IS THAT OF GILBERT PEROL, SECRETARY GENERAL OF AIR FRANCE (AND PRESS SPOKESMAN AT ELYSEES UNDER POMPIDOU BEFORE BEING ASSIGNED TO AIR FRANCE A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO). PEROL IS SAID TO HAVE THE SUPPORT OF AIR FRANCE PRESIDENT GALICHON AS WELL AS THAT OF UNIONS AMONG AIR FRANCE PERSONNEL WHO HAVE PETITIONED FOR APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL FROM WITHIN AIR FRANCE ORGANIZATION. ANOTHER MENTIONED AS POSSIBILITY IS JACQUES ALEXANDRE, WHO RECENTLY REJOINED AIR FRANCE IN A SENIOR POSITION AFTER HAVING BEEN
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DETACHED FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO HEAD AIR MADAGASCAR.

AN ECONOMIC NEWSLETTER HAS EVEN MENTIONED THE NAME
OF CLAUDE ABRAHAM, FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AIR
TRANSPORT AT SGAC AND NOW DIRECTOR OF CABINET OF
STATE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, THOUGH MOST OBSERVERS
THINK ABRAHAM APPOINTMENT IS UNLIKELY.
IRWIN

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